

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. <sup>B</sup>4707

### 1. Name

Historic 1037-1039 North Chapel Street  
and / common

### 2. Location

street & number 1037-1039 North Chapel Street  
city, town Baltimore  
state & zip code Maryland 21205 county

### 3. Classification

**Category**

district  
 building(s)  
 structure  
 site  
 object

**Ownership**

public  
 private  
 both  
**Public Acquisition**  
 in process  
 being considered  
 not applicable

**Status**

occupied  
 unoccupied  
 work in progress  
**Accessible**  
 yes: restricted  
 yes: unrestricted  
 no

**Present Use**

agriculture  
 commercial  
 educational  
 entertainment  
 government  
 industrial  
 military  
 museum  
 park  
 private residence  
 religious  
 scientific  
 transportation  
 other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name  
street & number telephone  
city, town state & zip code

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber  
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio  
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title  
date federal state county local  
depository for survey records  
city, town state & zip code

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check One**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check One**

original site  
 moved:  
date of move: \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This pair of two-story, two-bay wide houses early Italianate-style brick houses with shed roofs and simple, scroll-sawn bracketed cornices were built in 1871-1872 by William Taylor, a local builder of working class houses in East Baltimore. The original row extended from 1029 – 1043 North Chapel St., but at the time of this survey only this pair remained of the group. The houses retain their original painted brick facades.

The houses are two stories in height, 13' wide and occupy lots 55' deep. Each house is two rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are constructed in common bond and were originally painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located at the rear corner of the house. The shed roofs are capped by a continuous wooden cornice consisting of a crown molding supported by simple block modillions set above a plain frieze area. The window and door openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, composed of a double row of headers, and plain tympanums. No original 2/2 sash survive. The sills are wood. The doorways have a single-light transom but no original doors survive. The houses sit on low basements, lit by a single-light sash. Each house is reached by two concrete steps.

## 8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1871-1872

Builder/Architect William Taylor

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This simple form of small street house is typical of those built in the 1870s, often in neighborhoods of predominantly three story houses, like Union Square or the nearby Madison Square. This group of houses is significant as representing a very plain type of small street house that was constructed to serve as rental housing for the working class residents of the area, most of whom were German at the time of construction.

The houses were built by William Taylor, a local builder, according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's new neighborhoods of the 1870s and 1880s. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and north-east of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide three-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$2,000 - \$3,000; small street houses for \$ 700 - \$900.

In this particular case Taylor sold the houses to a variety of investors interested in their rental income. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

Taylor also built the similar-looking houses on the west side of Chapel St., just opposite this row.

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*  
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

## 10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property

Quadrangle name

Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared by

name / title Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward

Organization The Alley House Project

date June 2000

street & number 1306 Carrollton Ave.

telephone

city, town Baltimore

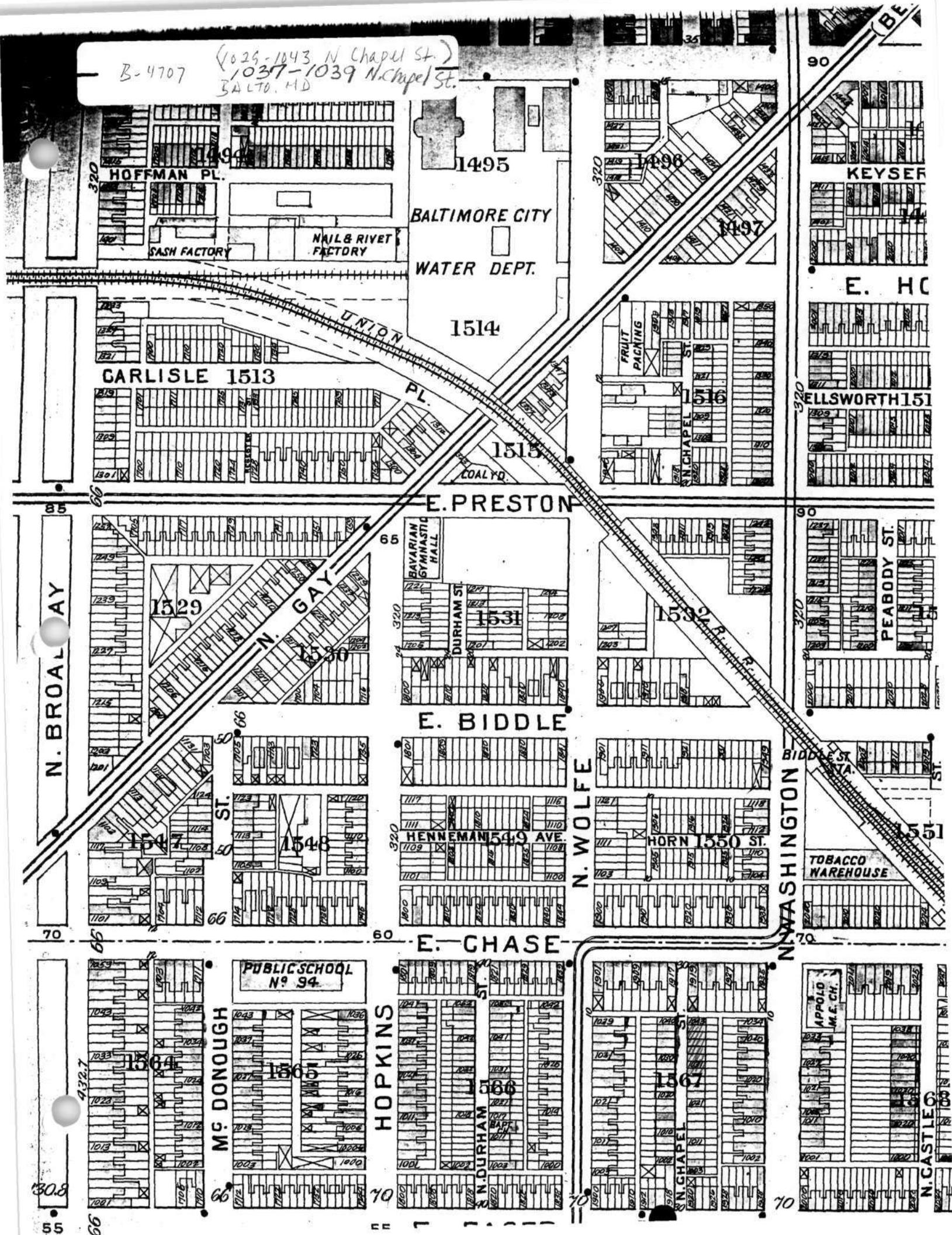
state & zip code Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of property rights.

Return to:  
DHCP/DHCD  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032-2023

B-4707 (1029-1043 N Chapel St.)  
1037-1039 N Chapel St.  
BALTO. MD



HOFFMAN PL.

BALTIMORE CITY  
WATER DEPT.

CARLISLE 1513

1514

E. PRESTON

1529

E. BIDDLE

HENNEMAN 549 AVE.

E. CHASE

PUBLIC SCHOOL  
No. 34

HOPKINS

N. DURHAM

N. CHAPEL

N. WASHINGTON

N. BROOLAY

N. GAY

N. WOLFE

PEABODY ST.

TOBACCO WAREHOUSE

APPOLD M.E. CH.

N. CASTLE

KEYSER

E. HO

ELLSWORTH 151

PEABODY ST.

TOBACCO WAREHOUSE

APPOLD M.E. CH.

N. CASTLE

B-4707  
1037-1039 N. Chapel Street  
Block 1567, Lots 091-092  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.

Demolished

